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SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WILLIAM J. PERRY
REMARKS UPON ARRIVAL IN SKOPJE
SKOPJE, FYROM, MACEDONIA
JULY 19, 1994

SECRETARY PERRY: Good morning. I am delighted to be in Skopje and I'm looking forward to talks with the Minister of Defense, the President and Prime Minister here. First of all, I'm going to be meeting with some of the American forces stationed with the U.N. peacekeeping battalion here.

With the government, we will be discussing military-to-military cooperation between our two countries. I will be seeking their assessment of the overall security situation in this region. I'm especially anxious to meet with some of our own troops here. This is the first time the U.N. peacekeeping force has been posted in advance of hostilities as a means basically of deterrence. We are proud to have the United States forces here, approximately 500 of them wearing the blue helmets, along with the Nordic troops in this U.N. peacekeeping battalion located here.

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